

**AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace paragraph 0035 with the following:

**[0035]** The dimensions of the strip are determined so that, as seen in FIG. 3, the sealing strip 25 is positioned in the annular channel of the rim 1 and, in particular, so that the lips 32 and 33 are housed under, or radially inward of, the lips 12 and 13 of the rim. Thereby, like the retaining surfaces 12a, 13a of the rim 1, the lips 32, 33 of the sealing strip have retaining surfaces that face generally radially inwardly (i.e., downwardly in the drawing). In addition, from a first position before a tire is mounted on the rim (as in FIGS. 2 or 4, e.g.), the lips 32, 33 of the sealing strip are flexed upwardly to be positioned between the tire beads 42, 43, respectively, and the lips 12, 13, respectively, of the rim 1.